

Economic
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Branch*

Monthly Economic Review

APRIL, 1991



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ALBERTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE

MONTHLY ECONOMIC REVIEW

APRIL, 1991

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CURRENT ECONOMIC INDICATORS
APRIL, 1991
Highlights

Employment/Unemployment: The unadjusted unemployment rate in Alberta increased slightly, to 8.4% in April from 8.3% in March 1991, the second lowest rate in Canada. The level of unemployment increased by 1,000 persons over the same two month period while employment increased by 5,000. Unemployment rates declined in six of the nine industry categories listed in this report including manufacturing, retail trade, and accommodation food and beverages.

Housing: Despite a more than ten-fold increase in permits issued in the institutional/government category, declines in the higher valued segments led to an overall 46% drop in value in February 1991 compared to February 1990. With losses posted in all categories, the total number of urban dwelling starts declined by 67.3% in March 1991 compared to March 1990 and by 65.1% on a year-to-date basis.

International Travelers: The number of non-residents entering Alberta increased by 10.4% in March 1991 compared to March 1990. Entries increased from all countries listed in this report except Japan. (Note: U.S. figures exclude same-day entries. See data table for additional note).

Domestic Trade: Restaurant, caterers and tavern receipts declined by 1.6% in January 1991 compared to January 1990 following a 4.4% increase in December. The value of retail trade declined by 7.3% in March 1991 over March 1990 and by 6.1% over the first quarter.

Despite the weakness of the latter figure, retail trade performance in Alberta over the period still ranked third best in Canada.

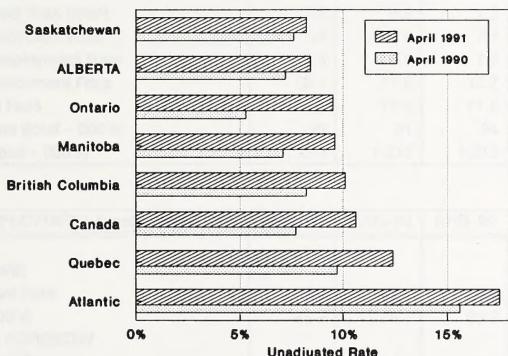
Manufacturing: The value of manufacturing shipments increased by 3.3% in February 1991 compared to February 1990 with gains registered in 7 of 14 categories listed in this report. On a year-to-date basis, Alberta's rate of growth at 7.6% was the second highest in Canada.

Energy: Production of both natural gas and crude oil and equivalents continued to increase in January 1991, by 5.5% and 6.1%, respectively, over levels recorded in January 1990. Rig activity declined slightly in April 1991 over April 1990 with the number of rigs drilling down 5.2%.

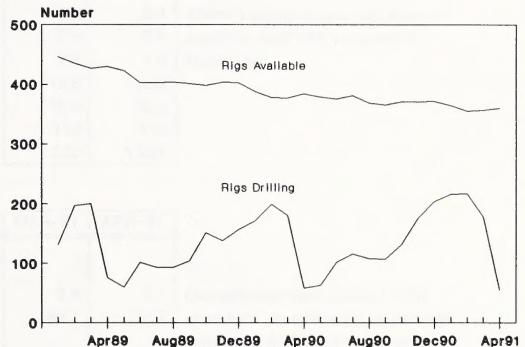
Exports: The value of exports from Alberta continued to increase into February 1991 registering a value 24.8% greater than posted in February 1990. Over the first two months of this year, exports have increased by 25.7% over 1989, the highest rate of growth in Canada.

Bankruptcies/Incorporation: Though increasing at a slower pace than in the previous month, both consumer and business bankruptcies continued to rise in March 1991 over March 1990, by 50.2% and 14.6% respectively. Incorporations of Alberta firms over the same period declined by 17.1% while non-Alberta business incorporations decreased by 21.5%.

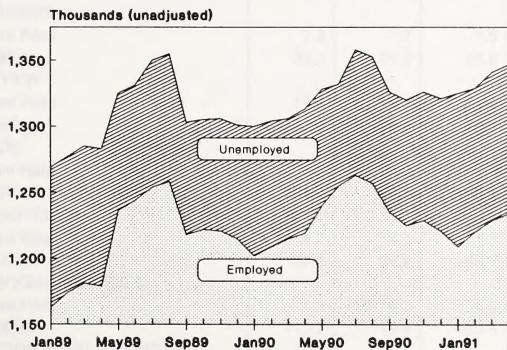
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, PROVINCES



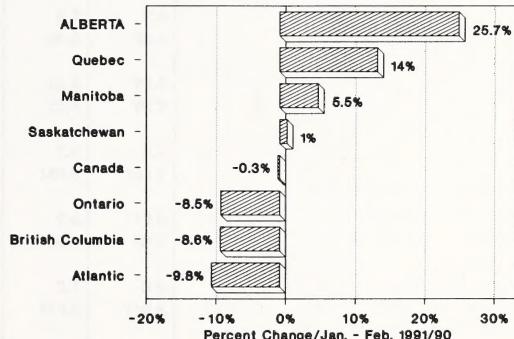
RIG ACTIVITY, ALBERTA



LABOUR FORCE, ALBERTA



EXPORTS, PROVINCES



CURRENT ECONOMIC INDICATORS

April 1991

| UNEMPLOYMENT (unadjusted) | FEB-90 | MAR-90 | APR-90 | FEB-91 | MAR-91 | APR-91 |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Alberta | | | | | | |
| a) Unemployment Rate (total) | 7.3 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 |
| b) Male Unemployment Rate | 7.6 | 7.0 | 7.1 | 8.9 | 8.9 | 9.5 |
| c) Female Unemployment Rate | 6.9 | 6.9 | 7.2 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 7.0 |
| d) Youth Unemployment Rate | 12.1 | 11.6 | 12.7 | 13.5 | 13.8 | 13.6 |
| e) Participation Rate | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71.8 | 71.5 | 72.0 | 72.2 |
| f) Unemployment (total - 000's) | 95 | 91 | 94 | 109 | 112 | 113 |
| g) Employed (total - 000's) | 1,209 | 1,215 | 1,219 | 1,220 | 1,229 | 1,234 |

Alberta's unemployment rate increased slightly in April 1991 compared to March 1991.

| INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT (unadjusted) | FEB-90 | MAR-90 | APR-90 | FEB-91 | MAR-91 | APR-91 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Alberta | | | | | | |
| a) AGRICULTURE | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 2.1 |
| Employed (000's) | 83.2 | 84.1 | 93.2 | 86.8 | 89.1 | 97.7 |
| b) LOGGING & FORESTRY | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.0 | 9.1 | 27.6 | 0.0 | 6.8 | 22.0 |
| Employed (000's) | 2.4 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 3.3 | 4.1 | 3.2 |
| c) MINING | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 7.2 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 4.8 | 6.4 | 9.5 |
| Employed (000's) | 67.5 | 68.6 | 71.5 | 69.4 | 70.6 | 68.6 |
| d) MANUFACTURING | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 7.4 | 7.7 | 9.5 | 9.7 | 8.7 | 7.4 |
| Employed (000's) | 93.4 | 96.3 | 89.8 | 94.4 | 94.9 | 92.4 |
| e) CONSTRUCTION | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 19.0 | 15.9 | 14.8 | 25.4 | 25.4 | 25.3 |
| Employed (000's) | 72.9 | 74.8 | 78.5 | 69.3 | 72.4 | 75.2 |
| f) RETAIL TRADE | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 7.2 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 8.5 | 7.4 | 6.7 |
| Employed (000's) | 156.4 | 156.3 | 159.2 | 156.4 | 149.8 | 154.7 |
| g) BUSINESS SERVICES | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.3 | 4.5 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 9.4 | 12.0 |
| Employed (000's) | 67.3 | 69.6 | 66.7 | 69.4 | 68.9 | 68.7 |
| h) HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.9 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.5 |
| Employed (000's) | 115.2 | 112.4 | 108.5 | 118.3 | 118.9 | 119.8 |
| i) ACCOMMODATION FOOD & BEVERAGE | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 13.0 | 10.3 | 12.4 | 11.4 | 11.2 | 11.0 |
| Employed (000's) | 81.2 | 82.2 | 79.8 | 82.3 | 82.8 | 78.9 |

Unemployment rates declined in the agriculture, manufacturing, construction, retail trade, health & social services, and accommodation food & beverages categories in April 1991 compared to March 1991.

| BUILDING PERMITS (\$millions) | JANUARY - FEBRUARY | | | JANUARY | | | FEBRUARY | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|---------|-------|--------------------|----------|-------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Total Value | 468.8 | 250.4 | -46.6 | 239.9 | 126.7 | -47.2 | 228.9 | 123.7 | -46.0 |
| b) Residential | 270.9 | 111.0 | -59.0 | 121.9 | 48.3 | -60.4 | 149.0 | 62.7 | -57.9 |
| c) Industrial | 46.9 | 20.9 | -55.4 | 15.2 | 9.5 | -37.5 | 31.7 | 11.4 | -64.0 |
| d) Commercial | 133.3 | 71.0 | -46.7 | 86.9 | 41.4 | -52.4 | 46.5 | 29.5 | -36.6 |
| e) Institutional/Government | 17.8 | 47.5 | 166.9 | 16.0 | 27.5 | 71.9 | 1.8 | 20.0 | 1,011.1 |

Permits declined in all but the institutional/government category in February 1991 compared to February 1990.

| DWELLING STARTS (urban) | JANUARY - MARCH | | | FEBRUARY | | | MARCH | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|----------|------|--------------------|-------|------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Single Detached | 3,227 | 1,129 | -65.0 | 954 | 382 | -60.0 | 1,294 | 450 | -65.2 |
| b) Two Family | 202 | 72 | -64.4 | 50 | 18 | -64.0 | 36 | 24 | -33.3 |
| c) Row | 192 | 97 | -49.5 | 35 | 20 | -42.9 | 57 | 4 | -93.0 |
| d) Apartments | 198 | 34 | -82.8 | 18 | 0 | -100.0 | 177 | 34 | -80.8 |

Urban starts declined in all categories in March 1991 over March 1990.

| A. INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS NON-RESIDENTS ENTERING | JANUARY - MARCH | | | FEBRUARY | | | MARCH | | |
|--|-----------------|--------|--------------------|----------|--------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Total | 70,377 | 74,687 | 6.1 | 21,137 | 23,114 | 9.4 | 28,096 | 31,018 | 10.4 |
| b) U.S.A | 46,161 | 48,196 | 4.4 | 13,512 | 14,734 | 9.0 | 19,026 | 20,321 | 6.8 |
| c) Germany | 1,705 | 2,400 | 40.8 | 663 | 858 | 29.4 | 653 | 1,118 | 71.2 |
| d) Netherlands | 525 | 469 | -10.7 | 173 | 101 | -41.6 | 199 | 203 | 2.0 |
| e) Switzerland | 603 | 727 | 20.6 | 172 | 237 | 37.8 | 236 | 334 | 41.5 |
| f) United Kingdom | 2,748 | 3,928 | 42.9 | 1,019 | 1,299 | 27.5 | 1,035 | 1,751 | 69.2 |
| g) Hong Kong | 161 | 184 | 14.3 | 44 | 70 | 59.1 | 33 | 55 | 66.7 |
| h) Japan | 948 | 1,185 | 25.0 | 247 | 205 | -17.0 | 306 | 277 | -9.5 |
| i) Australia | 746 | 707 | -5.2 | 241 | 179 | -25.7 | 220 | 244 | 10.9 |

The number of travelers entering Alberta increased by 10.4% in March 1991 over 1990.

(Note: Figures given are for non-residents entering Alberta directly. Consequently, actual totals will be understated as significant numbers of travelers enter via other provinces. This movement will not be reflected in this table.)

| B. RESTAURANT CATERERS & TAVERN RECEIPTS (\$ Min) | JANUARY | | | DECEMBER | | | JANUARY | | |
|---|---------|-------|-----------------|----------|-------|-----------------|---------|-------|-----------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1989 | 1990 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | 121.2 | 119.3 | -1.6 | 137.3 | 143.4 | 4.4 | 121.2 | 119.3 | -1.6 |

Receipts declined in January.

| RETAIL TRADE (\$millions) | JANUARY - MARCH | | | FEBRUARY | | | MARCH | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|----------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Total All Stores | 2,743 | 2,575 | -6.1 | 1,396 | 1,327 | -4.9 | 1,347 | 1,248 | -7.3 |

Receipts declined in March.

| MANUFACTURING (Value of shipments of goods of own manufacture \$millions) | JANUARY - FEBRUARY | | | JANUARY | | | FEBRUARY | | |
|---|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|----------|---------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Total | 2,953.7 | 3,178.6 | 7.6 | 1,492.6 | 1,669.4 | 11.8 | 1,461.1 | 1,509.2 | 3.3 |
| b) Food | 660.0 | 721.3 | 9.3 | 338.3 | 377.9 | 11.7 | 321.6 | 343.4 | 6.8 |
| c) Beverage | 44.7 | 56.3 | 26.0 | 21.4 | 27.6 | 29.0 | 23.3 | 28.7 | 23.2 |
| d) Primary Metal | 149.0 | 137.8 | -7.5 | 81.7 | 74.3 | -9.1 | 67.3 | 63.4 | -5.8 |
| e) Metal Fabricating | 167.9 | 141.1 | -16.0 | 78.3 | 68.9 | -12.0 | 89.6 | 72.2 | -19.4 |
| f) Printing Publishing | 120.5 | 110.8 | -8.0 | 60.4 | 56.2 | -7.0 | 60.1 | 54.6 | -9.2 |
| g) Non-Metallic Mineral Products | 67.3 | 55.8 | -17.1 | 34.7 | 29.2 | -15.9 | 32.7 | 26.6 | -18.7 |
| h) Petroleum/Coal Products | 479.3 | 591.3 | 23.4 | 257.4 | 335.9 | 30.5 | 221.9 | 255.4 | 15.1 |
| i) Chemicals and Chemical Products | 531.6 | 562.4 | 5.8 | 265.9 | 298.6 | 12.3 | 265.7 | 263.8 | -0.7 |
| j) Wood | 150.6 | 120.3 | -20.1 | 73.3 | 62.8 | -14.3 | 77.2 | 57.5 | -25.5 |
| k) Furniture and Fixtures | 48.2 | 38.1 | -21.0 | 23.3 | 22.1 | -5.2 | 24.9 | 15.9 | -36.1 |
| l) Paper and Allied | 100.0 | 108.0 | 8.0 | 54.0 | 55.6 | 3.0 | 46.1 | 52.4 | 13.7 |
| m) Transportation Equipment | 82.6 | 111.7 | 35.2 | 39.1 | 43.5 | 11.3 | 43.5 | 68.2 | 56.8 |
| n) Electronic Products | 78.5 | 108.5 | 38.2 | 36.2 | 56.9 | 57.2 | 42.3 | 51.6 | 22.0 |
| o) Other | 39.6 | 46.3 | 16.9 | 19.7 | 22.8 | 15.7 | 19.9 | 23.5 | 18.1 |

Increases in the value of shipments in seven of fourteen categories were sufficient to offset losses in the remaining segments in February 1991 compared to February 1990, leading to an overall 3.3% gain.

| ENERGY | JANUARY | | | DECEMBER | | | JANUARY | | |
|---|----------|----------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------------------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1989 | 1990 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Natural Gas Production (millions of cubic metres) | 10,743.4 | 11,335.3 | 5.5 | 10,825.5 | 11,355.5 | 4.9 | 10,743.4 | 11,335.3 | 5.5 |
| b) Crude Oil and Equivalents Production (thousands of cubic metres) | 6,437.3 | 6,832.1 | 6.1 | 6,632.5 | 6,862.1 | 3.5 | 6,437.3 | 6,832.1 | 6.1 |

Energy production continued to increase in both categories in January.

| RIG ACTIVITY | AVERAGE JANUARY - APRIL | | | MARCH | | | APRIL | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1989 | 1990 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Drilling activity | 152 | 167 | 9.9 | 181 | 178 | -1.7 | 58 | 55 | -5.2 |
| b) Available | 382 | 360 | -5.8 | 377 | 357 | -5.3 | 384 | 360 | -6.3 |
| OIL PRICE (W.T.I. - \$U.S.) | 20.94 | 21.49 | -0.1 | 20.41 | 19.88 | -2.6 | 18.58 | 20.82 | 12.1 |

The number of rigs drilling declined in April 1991 over April 1990.

| AGRICULTURE - Farm Cash Receipts (\$millions) | JANUARY - DECEMBER | | | JULY - SEPTEMBER | | | OCTOBER - DECEMBER | | |
|--|--------------------|---------|--------------------|------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|
| | 1989 | 1990 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1989 | 1990 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1989 | 1990 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Total From Operations | 4,532.8 | 4,201.8 | -7.3 | 1,114.3 | 1,043.2 | -6.4 | 1,141.8 | 906.7 | -20.6 |
| b) Crops | 1,826.4 | 1,591.8 | -12.8 | 368.1 | 331.0 | -10.1 | 408.1 | 279.3 | -31.6 |
| c) Livestock | 2,146.3 | 2,317.0 | 8.0 | 570.0 | 591.6 | 3.8 | 545.5 | 548.1 | 0.5 |

Farm cash receipts declined in the final quarter of 1990 compared to the same period in 1989.

| EXPORTS (\$millions) | JANUARY - FEBRUARY | | | JANUARY | | | FEBRUARY | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|----------|---------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Total | 2,427.7 | 3,052.4 | 25.7 | 1,326.6 | 1,794.3 | 35.3 | 1,090.3 | 1,360.3 | 24.8 |
| b) Crude Materials | 1,447.5 | 1,972.0 | 36.2 | 799.5 | 1,200.7 | 50.2 | 637.7 | 874.0 | 37.1 |
| c) Fabricated Materials | 502.1 | 616.6 | 22.8 | 264.5 | 355.1 | 34.3 | 237.5 | 261.4 | 10.1 |
| d) End Products | 103.4 | 118.1 | 14.2 | 58.2 | 62.1 | 6.7 | 44.8 | 56.1 | 25.2 |
| e) Other | 374.8 | 345.8 | -7.7 | 204.4 | 176.4 | -13.7 | 170.4 | 168.8 | -0.9 |

With gains posted in all but the 'Other' category, the total value of exports increased by 24.8% in February 1991 compared to February 1990.

| BANKRUPTCIES | JANUARY - MARCH | | | FEBRUARY | | | MARCH | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|----------|------|--------------------|-------|------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Business | 285 | 373 | 30.9 | 92 | 123 | 33.7 | 103 | 118 | 14.6 |
| b) Consumer | 769 | 1,302 | 69.3 | 263 | 433 | 64.6 | 269 | 404 | 50.2 |

Bankruptcies increased in both categories in March.

| NEW BUSINESS INCORPORATIONS | JANUARY - MARCH | | | FEBRUARY | | | MARCH | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|----------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE | 1990 | 1991 | PER-CENT CHANGE |
| Alberta | | | | | | | | | |
| a) Alberta Corporations | 4,435 | 3,922 | -11.6 | 1,476 | 1,281 | -13.2 | 1,551 | 1,286 | -17.1 |
| b) Non-Alberta Corporations | 489 | 410 | -16.2 | 164 | 137 | -16.5 | 186 | 146 | -21.5 |

Incorporations declined in both categories in March.

| CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1986=100 (Canada and Selected Cities) | ANNUAL RATES | | | 1990 | | | | 1991 | | |
|---|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR |
| a) Canada | 108.6 | 114.0 | 119.5 | 120.2 | 121.2 | 121.9 | 121.8 | 125.0 | 125.0 | 125.5 |
| b) Edmonton | 107.1 | 111.8 | 117.8 | 119.1 | 120.1 | 120.9 | 120.5 | 123.9 | 122.5 | 123.1 |
| c) Calgary | 106.6 | 110.7 | 117.6 | 118.9 | 119.7 | 120.4 | 120.5 | 123.9 | 122.9 | 123.6 |
| d) Halifax | 107.4 | 112.5 | 118.2 | 119.0 | 119.4 | 120.7 | 121.6 | 124.8 | 125.0 | 125.5 |
| e) Toronto | 110.9 | 117.9 | 123.4 | 124.0 | 125.0 | 125.6 | 125.1 | 127.4 | 127.3 | 127.8 |
| f) Winnipeg | 108.5 | 113.7 | 118.9 | 119.7 | 120.7 | 121.3 | 121.7 | 124.3 | 124.1 | 124.6 |
| g) Vancouver | 106.8 | 111.5 | 117.6 | 118.8 | 119.2 | 120.1 | 119.7 | 123.0 | 123.2 | 123.3 |

Calgary posted the highest rate of growth in the price index on a month over month basis, while Vancouver posted the lowest among cities listed.

| EXCHANGE RATES (in \$CDN) | ANNUAL AVERAGE | | | 1990 | | | 1991 | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR |
| a) United States | 1.2307 | 1.1839 | 1.1668 | 1.1598 | 1.1631 | 1.1600 | 1.1559 | 1.1546 | 1.1569 | 1.1533 |
| b) Japan | 0.0096 | 0.0086 | 0.0081 | 0.0090 | 0.0090 | 0.0087 | 0.0087 | 0.0088 | 0.0084 | 0.0084 |
| c) Germany | 0.7027 | 0.6308 | 0.7239 | 0.7614 | 0.7833 | 0.7755 | 0.7667 | 0.7801 | 0.7205 | 0.6778 |
| d) United Kingdom | 2.1926 | 1.9414 | 2.0824 | 2.2569 | 2.2853 | 2.2324 | 2.2377 | 2.2680 | 2.1117 | 2.0188 |
| e) France | 0.2072 | 0.1859 | 0.2148 | 0.2273 | 0.2326 | 0.2282 | 0.2257 | 0.2292 | 0.2117 | 0.2006 |

The Canadian dollar was unchanged against the Yen in April over March 1991 and increased in value against all other currencies listed.

| INTEREST RATES (Prime Rates) | ANNUAL AVERAGE | | | 1990 | | | 1991 | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR |
| a) Canada | 10.80 | 13.30 | 14.10 | 13.75 | 13.25 | 12.75 | 12.25 | 11.25 | 11.25 | 10.75 |
| b) United States | 9.40 | 10.90 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 9.50 | 9.50 | 9.00 | 9.00 | 9.00 |

The prime rate declined in Canada in April over March 1991.

| CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1985=100 (Selected Countries) | ANNUAL AVERAGE | | | 1990 | | | | 1991 | | |
|---|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN |
| a) Canada | 113.1 | 118.7 | 124.4 | 124.7 | 124.8 | 125.1 | 126.2 | 126.9 | 126.9 | 130.2 |
| b) United States | 109.9 | 115.2 | 121.4 | 121.2 | 122.4 | 123.3 | 124.1 | 124.3 | 124.3 | 125.1 |
| c) Japan | 101.4 | 103.7 | 106.9 | 106.4 | 106.9 | 107.9 | 109.3 | 108.9 | 108.6 | 109.5 |
| d) Germany | 101.4 | 104.2 | 107.0 | 106.8 | 107.1 | 107.5 | 108.2 | 108.0 | 108.1 | 108.8 |
| e) United Kingdom | 113.0 | 121.8 | 133.4 | 134.1 | 135.4 | 136.7 | 137.8 | 137.5 | 137.4 | 137.7 |
| f) France | 108.8 | 112.6 | 116.4 | 116.3 | 117.0 | 117.6 | 118.2 | 118.0 | 118.0 | 118.5 |

On a month over month basis, Canada posted the highest rate of growth in the price index in January, the U.K. the lowest.

INTERPROVINCIAL COMPARISON OF ECONOMIC INDICATORS

| | ATLANTIC | QUEBEC | ONTARIO | MAN. | SASK. | ALBERTA | B.C. | CANADA | |
|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---|
| UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (unadjusted) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) APRIL 1990 | 15.6 | 9.7 | 5.3 | 7.1 | 7.6 | 7.2 | 8.2 | 7.7 | |
| b) APRIL 1991 | 17.5 | 12.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 10.1 | 10.6 | <i>Alberta's unemployment rate was the second lowest in Canada in April.</i> |
| EMPLOYED (unadjusted 000's) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) APRIL 1990 | 879 | 3,014 | 4,918 | 507 | 438 | 1,219 | 1,452 | 12,428 | |
| b) APRIL 1991 | 856 | 2,918 | 4,705 | 489 | 442 | 1,234 | 1,476 | 12,119 | <i>Alberta's rate of growth in employment was the second highest in Canada in April.</i> |
| c) Percent Change | -2.6 | -3.2 | -4.3 | -3.6 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.7 | -2.5 | |
| TOTAL WAGES AND SALARIES (adjusted seasonally \$millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) FEBRUARY 1990 | 1,694.0 | 6,342.6 | 12,211.0 | 922.6 | 706.0 | 2,610.6 | 3,224.6 | 27,862.0 | |
| b) FEBRUARY 1991 | 1,744.9 | 6,490.7 | 12,301.6 | 943.7 | 719.0 | 2,724.4 | 3,353.9 | 28,416.4 | <i>Led by Alberta, wages and salaries increased across Canada in February 1991 over 1990.</i> |
| c) Percent Change | 3.0 | 2.3 | 0.7 | 2.3 | 1.8 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 2.0 | |
| RETAIL TRADE (unadjusted \$millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1990 | 2,018 | 6,432 | 9,865 | 897 | 766 | 2,743 | 3,443 | 26,239 | |
| b) JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1991 | 1,953 | 5,799 | 8,844 | 856 | 716 | 2,575 | 3,222 | 24,036 | <i>The value of retail trade declined across the country from January to February.</i> |
| c) Percent Change | -3.2 | -9.8 | -10.3 | -4.6 | -6.5 | -6.1 | -6.4 | -8.4 | |
| MANUFACTURING (value of shipments of goods of own manufacture in \$millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1990 | 2,014.4 | 11,131.2 | 23,956.2 | 1,117.8 | 571.5 | 2,953.7 | 3,909.0 | 45,663.2 | |
| b) JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1991 | 2,226.1 | 10,520.2 | 22,251.9 | 950.0 | 607.8 | 3,178.6 | 3,507.5 | 43,250.0 | <i>Alberta's rate of growth in manufacturing shipments was the second highest in Canada.</i> |
| c) Percent Change | 10.5 | -5.5 | -7.1 | -15.0 | 6.4 | 7.6 | -10.3 | -5.3 | |
| AGRICULTURE (Farm Cash Receipts from farming operations \$millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1989 | 898.9 | 3,681.5 | 5,669.2 | 2,102.2 | 4,467.7 | 4,532.8 | 1,168.5 | 22,520.7 | |
| b) JANUARY TO DECEMBER 1990 | 899.2 | 3,725.5 | 5,615.4 | 2,014.0 | 4,045.9 | 4,201.8 | 1,185.7 | 21,687.4 | <i>Only Quebec and B.C. registered improved performance in farm cash receipts in 1990 over 1989.</i> |
| c) Percent Change | 0.0 | 1.2 | -0.9 | -4.2 | -9.4 | -7.3 | 1.5 | -3.7 | |
| EXPORTS (\$millions) | | | | | | | | | |
| a) JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1990 | 1,209.5 | 3,507.0 | 10,415.0 | 486.7 | 862.3 | 2,427.7 | 2,768.7 | 21,711.5 | |
| b) JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1991 | 1,091.1 | 3,998.1 | 9,525.5 | 513.4 | 871.0 | 3,052.4 | 2,529.8 | 21,641.7 | <i>Alberta's rate of growth in exports was the highest in Canada over the first two months of the year.</i> |
| c) Percent Change | -9.8 | 14.0 | -8.5 | 5.5 | 1.0 | 25.7 | -8.6 | -0.3 | |

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Agriculture: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 21-001 <u>Farm Cash Receipts</u> |
| Bankruptcies: | Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada, Superintendent of Bankruptcy |
| Building Permits: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 64-001 <u>Building Permits</u> |
| Business Incorporations: | Corporate Registry, Alberta Consumer & Corporate Affairs |
| Consumer Price Index: | Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 62-002 and International Monetary Fund, <u>International Financial Statistics</u> |
| Dwelling Starts: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 64-002 <u>Housing Starts and Completions</u> |
| Energy Production and Oil Prices: | Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board <u>Alberta Energy Resources Industries, Monthly Report</u> |
| Exchange Rates: | <u>Bank of Canada Review</u> |
| Exports: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 65-001 <u>Summary of Canadian International Trade</u> |
| Interest Rates: | <u>Bank of Canada Review</u> |
| International Travelers: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 66-001 <u>Travel Between Canada and Other Countries</u> and Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 63-011 <u>Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics</u> |
| Manufacturing: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 31-001 <u>Inventories, Shipments and Orders in Manufacturing</u> |
| Retail Trade: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 63-005 <u>Retail Trade</u> |
| Rig Activity: | Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors |
| Unemployment/Employment: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 71-001 <u>The Labour Force</u> (Industry statistics compiled by Alberta Career Development & Employment). |
| Wages and Salaries: | Statistics Canada Catalogue No. 72-005 <u>Estimates of Labour Income</u> |

All series except international prices and business incorporations are also available on the Alberta Statistical Information System (ASIST).



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